

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

APPLICANT: Heinrich Marti et al.  
SERIAL NO.: Not Yet Known (PCT/EP2004/006884)  
FILED: Concurrently  
FOR: METHOD OF OPERATING A STRIP CASTING  
MACHINE FOR PRODUCING A METAL STRIP  
EXAMINER: -- Group: --

Mail Stop: PCT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR sections 1.97 and 1.98, applicant respectfully requests that the document listed on the attached form PTO-1449, be made of record and considered in connection with the examination of this application. Copies of the listed documents are enclosed. A translation of the foreign language document(s) is not readily available.

The documents submitted herewith were cited in a Search Report (copy enclosed) issued in an International application corresponding to the above-referenced application.

U.S. Patent No. 6,296,046 discloses an edge dam position control method and device in a twin-roll strip casting process.

International Publication WO 2004/00487 A1 discloses a method of producing a metal strip using a twin-roll casting device according to which side plates (6, 7) are, within a first time interval ( $\Delta t_1$ ) moved toward the faces (17, 18) of the casting rolls in a first direction of motion parallel to the casting roll axes (4, 5), and within a second time interval ( $\Delta t_2$ ), are moved toward a section of the outer surfaces (10, 11) of the casting rolls in a second direction of motion parallel to the casting direction (G) inside the casting gap (19).

European Publication EPO 546 206 A1 discloses a continuous casting method of thin metal strips.

European Publication EP 0 677345 A1 discloses a process for the twin-roll continuous casting of thin metal products, in which molten metal is poured into a casting gap (3) defined by the cylindrical walls of two rolls (1, 2) having parallel axes, the rolls being counter-rotating and internally cooled, and two stationary

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lateral closure plates (4) are placed against the side end surfaces of the rolls, and onto these side surfaces (5) is deposited a lubricant in order to lubricate the roll interfaces.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: December 22, 2005  
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This correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on December 22, 2005 in an envelope as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" Mailing Label Number ER 842 053 845 US addressed to the Honorable Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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Form PTO-1449  
(Rev. 7-80)U.S. Department of Commerce  
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PCT/EP2004/006884INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION  
IN AN APPLICATION  
(Use several sheets if necessary)

Applicant Heinrich Marti et al.

Filing Date

Concurrently

Group

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## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*Examiner Initial		Document Number							Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
	AA	6	2	9	6	0	4	6	10/2001	Seong In Seong et al.			
	AB												
	AC												
	AD												
	AE												
	AF												
	AG												
	AH												
	AI												
	AJ												

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		Document Number							Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation YES NO	
	AL	4	0	0	0	4	8	7	12/2003	PCT				X
	AM	0	5	4	6	2	0	6	6/1993	Europe				
	AN	0	6	7	7	3	4	5	3/1994	Europe				X
	AO													
	AP													

## OTHER RELATED ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	AR		Search Report
	AS		
	AT		

Examiner

Date Considered

\*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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